

Jaden Dias  
2/16/17  
8th grade  
St. Catherine Laboure

### A Hero On and Off the Field

2017 wasn't Houston's year. They'd gotten hit by a hurricane and a majority of the city lay in ruins. When all was lost, someone changed that. This man is NFL star J.J. Watt. He provided hope to those with none. I admire him for all the work he put into helping Houston. When you see someone use their stardom to help others, you have a special person.

Watt has helped thousands of people recover from Hurricane Harvey. He raised over 37 million dollars in relief efforts. Houston is his own city, so he demonstrated the pillar of citizenship. He helped them in their darkest hour. Watt has also proved to be extremely selfless, as after being sidelined by an injury, J.J. Watt continued his relief efforts.

J.J. Watt also demonstrated the pillar of caring. Everyone is aware of his relief efforts, but Watt has also done several other acts of caring. When 11-year-old Manuel Jimenez was injured in a shooting, Watt came and visited the boy in the hospital. Watt found out that kids from Sandy Hook school were in Houston, Watt invited them over to the Texan's stadium to play football. "I just wanted to give them a normal day as possible," Watt said when asked about it. These are only a few examples of Watt's massive heart.

J.J. Watt demonstrated the pillar of responsibility to its full extent. Responsibility is doing what is right out of a sense of duty. If anybody lived out this pillar, Watt did. Nobody forced him to raise 37 million to help Houston. Watt used his own time to help people he didn't know. Watt's an example of what responsibility is.

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Watt's stats were horrible in 2017. His actions on the field have gone unnoticed, but his actions off the field have touched the hearts of many. They haven't gone without recognition, as he won the NFL Man of the Year award. He also won the Sportsman of the Year. Someone once told me that stats don't tell whole story. In Watt's case, I find that especially true.